

Freezing the Peace Process

ISRAEL'S "DISENGAGEMENT" FROM GAZA

"The significance of the disengagement plan is the freezing of the peace process. [...] Prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state, and you prevent a discussion on refugees, the borders and Jerusalem. Effectively, this whole package called the Palestinian state, with all that it entails, has been removed indefinitely from our agenda . . ."

—Israeli PM Ariel Sharon's senior adviser Dov Weisglass during an interview published in Ha'aretz newspaper Friday magazine, Oct. 8, 2004

Dov Weisglass doesn't mince words. Why should we?

Israel's "disengagement" from Gaza will not end the occupation. It is a prelude to consolidating Apartheid:

- Israel will remain in control of Gaza's borders, airspace, the movement of people and goods and the economy. 1.3 million Palestinians will remain confined to a prison-like existence.
- Israel will reserve the right to invade Gaza at any time.
- Under international law Gaza will remain occupied territory. Israel will continue to have obligations to the Palestinians under the Fourth Geneva Convention.
- Gaza settlers will be re-located to land inside Israel that was expropriated from Palestinian and Bedouin citizens for the purposes of Jewish-only development.

Israel will continue taking more Palestinian land and resources in the West Bank:

- Israel is intensifying its efforts to territorially marginalize the Palestinians in the West Bank by expanding settlements and continuing to build the Wall. Palestinians are losing homes, farms, land and resources. More than 2.5 million Palestinians will be confined to a series of Bantustans on less than 40% of the West Bank.
- In East Jerusalem, Israel is consolidating its presence by using US-made Caterpillar bulldozers to demolish Palestinian homes. In the neighborhood of Silwan, 1,000 Palestinians will lose their homes so that illegal Israeli settlements and Jewish-only by-pass roads in East Jerusalem and the West Bank can be connected to Israel.
- Despite these blatant violations of international law, the US government continues to fund Israel to the tune of more than \$3 billion tax dollars per year.

Disengagement will not end the Occupation!
Get informed with the US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation!

The US Campaign is a diverse coalition of over 200 groups working for freedom from occupation and equal rights for all by challenging US policy towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Campaign is based on human rights and international law, providing a non-sectarian framework for everyone who supports its *Call to Action*. Its strategy is to inform, educate, and mobilize the public so as to change the US role in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

